CENTRAL FAX CENTER

MAR 1 2 2004

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)

Bardelmeier, et al.

Serial No.

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THERMOCHEMICAL VACUUM TREATMENT OF

METALLIC WORKPIECES

Art Unit

1742

Examiner

J. P. Sheehan

March 11, 2004

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Va. 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by facsimile -703-872-9306 addressed to: Commissinger for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450 on the date shown belower of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date shown below

AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 116

Sir:

Responsive to the Final Rejection mailed March 2, 2004, please amend the aboveidentified patent application as follows: